DIRECTIONS
TO OUR
Arch-Biſhops and Biſhops,
FOR THE
Preſerving of Unity in the Church,
AND THE
Purity of the Chriſtian Faith,
Concerning the
Holy Trinity.

By His Majeſties Special Command.

LONDON,
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LIBRARY OF THE UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Directions to Our Arch-Biſhops and Biſhops, for the Preſerving of Unity in the Church, and the Purity of the Chriſtian Faith, concerning the Holy Trinity.

WILLIAM R.

MOST Reverend, and Right Reverend Fathers in God, We Greet You well. Whereas We are given to underſtand, That there have of late been ſome Differences among the Clergy of this

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Our Realm about their Ways of Expreſſing themſelves in their Sermons and Writings, concerning the Doctrine of the Bleſſed Trinity, which may be of dangerous Conſequence, if not timely Prevented; We therefore, out of Our Princely Care and Zeal for the Preſervation of the Peace and Unity of the Church, together with the Purity of the Chriſtian Faith, Have thought fit to ſend You theſe following Directions, which We ſtraightly Charge and Command You to Publiſh, and to ſee that they be Obſerved within Your ſeveral Dioceſes.

I. That

I. That no Preacher whatsoever, in his Sermon or Lecture, do presume to Deliver any other Doctrine concerning the Blessed Trinity, than what is contained in the Holy Scriptures, and is agreeable to the Three Creeds and the Thirty nine Articles of Religion.

II. That in the Explication of this Doctrine they carefully avoid all new Terms, and confine themselves to such ways of Expression as have been commonly used in the Church.

III. That Care be taken in this Matter, especially to observe the Fifty third Canon of this Church, which forbids publick Opposition between Preachers, and that above all things they abstain from

bitter Invectives and Scurrilous Language against all Persons Whatsoever.

IV. That the foregoing Directions be also observed by those, who Write any thing concerning the said Doctrine.

And whereas We also understand, That divers Persons, who are not of the Clergy, have of late presumed, not only to Talk and to Dispute against the Christian Faith, concerning the Doctrine of the Blessed Trinity, but also to Write and Publish Books and Pamphlets against the same, and industriously spread them through the Kingdom, contrary to Our known Laws Established in this Realm; We do therefore strictly Charge and Command

You, together with all other Means suitable to Your Holy Profession, to make use of Your Authority according to Law, for the Repressing and Restraining of all such exorbitant Practices. And for Your Assistance We will give Charge to Our Judges, and all other Our Civil Officers, to do their Duty herein, in Executing the Laws against all such Persons as shall by these Means give Occasion of Scandal, Discord and Disturbance in Our Church and Kingdom.

Given at Our Court at *Kensington* the Third Day of *February*, 1695. In the Seventh Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesties Command,

SHREWSBURY.